

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Adult Performance Indicator Project Advisory Group

FROM: John Pandiani
Lucille Schacht

DATE: July 23, 1997

RE: Access to Medical Care – Part II

The attached pages describe the results of our analysis of access to medical diagnostic procedures as measured by the proportion of clients receiving mammograms and prostate specific antigen. Rates of access are compared for CRT Medicaid recipients, other Medicaid recipients, and the general public.

We look forward to your comments on the quality of the data, the appropriateness of the analysis, and the effectiveness of the presentation of these data, as well as your interpretation of the results.

Access to Medical Care Part II

Question: Do mental health service recipients have equal access (relative to the general population) to routine medical diagnostic procedures? (*This is related to MHSIP Report Card Outcome #1.*)

Data: Access to two routine diagnostic procedures were evaluated: mammograms for women and prostate specific antigens for men. Information on access to these diagnostic procedures by the general population of Vermont is based on a 1995 telephone survey conducted under contract with the Department of Health. Information on routine diagnostic procedures for Medicaid recipients during 1994-1995 was obtained from Medicaid Paid Claims files maintained by the Vermont Office of Health Access. Information on Medicaid clients of community mental health programs was obtained from Medicaid Paid Claim files. Information on the total number of clients served by CRT programs was obtained from Quarterly Service Reports submitted to DDMHS by community providers.

Analysis: Files with all paid claims for mammograms and prostate specific antigens during 1994-1995 were extracted from the Medicaid databases. A separate file of all persons eligible for Medicaid during any of 1995-1996 was extracted from the Medicaid databases. An additional file of all clients who received a service during 1996 from the CRT program at the CMHCs was extracted from the Medicaid databases. All files included the Medicaid client identifier, which was used to link three files together. The proportion of Medicaid clients from the CRT population and the non-CRT population was calculated after the files were linked. In order to be included in the analysis, clients need to be enrolled in Medicaid at least 300 days during each of 1995 and 1996. The analysis was conducted for females and males separately and clients were grouped by age 40-49 and 50 and up.

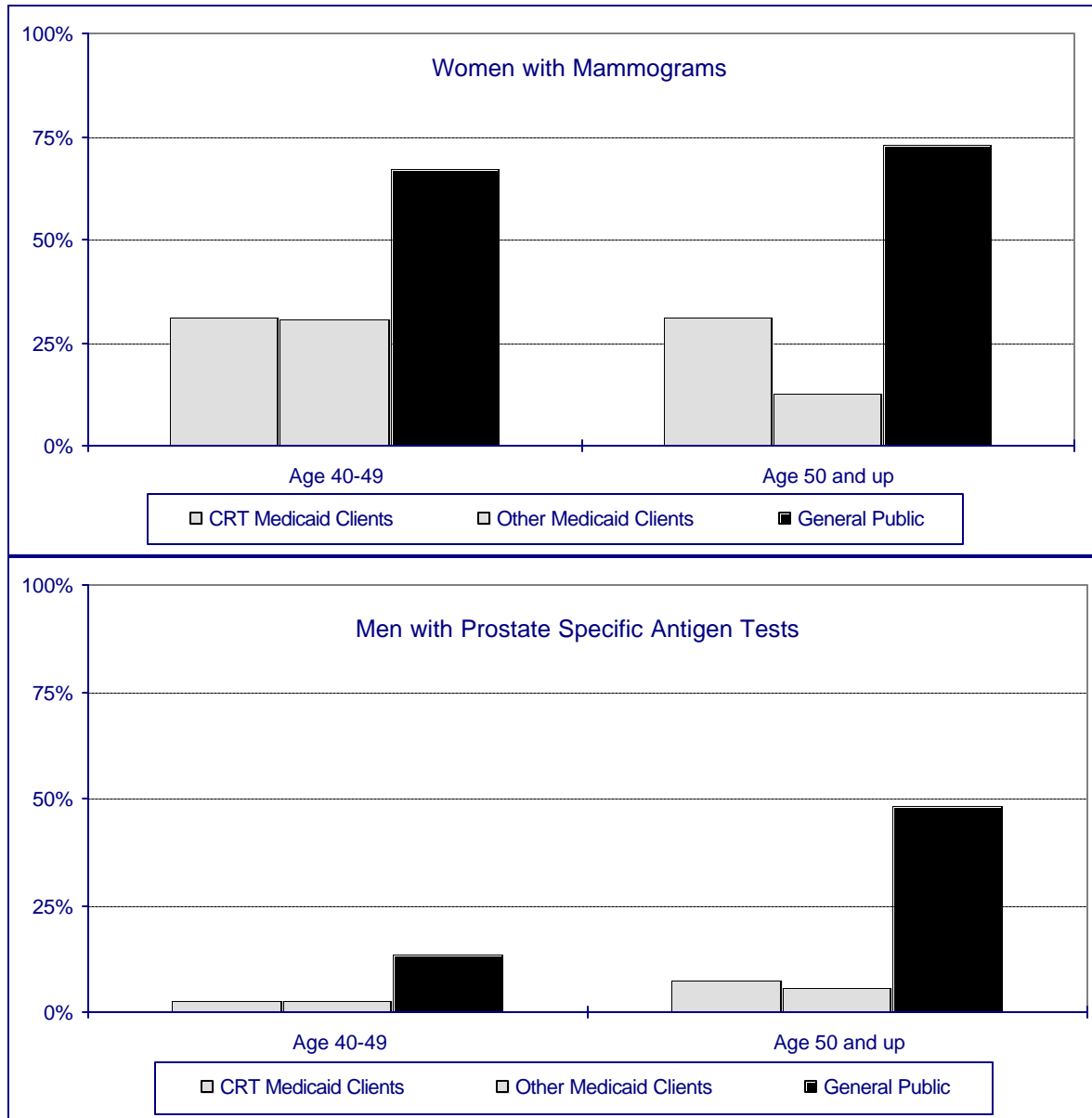
Results: Among women 40-49 years old, clients with Medicaid were much less likely than the general population to access the diagnostic procedure (31% for CRT Medicaid, 30% for other Medicaid, and 67% for the general public). Among women 50 and older, the difference was even greater (31% for CRT Medicaid, 13% for other Medicaid, and 73% for the general public). As was noted last week in the discussion of office visits, the Medicare insurance program may have an impact on Medicaid billings in this age group.

Men were generally less likely than women to have access to diagnostic procedures in every category. Among men 40-49 years old, clients with Medicaid coverage had lower access to this procedure than the general public (3% for CRT Medicaid, 2% for other Medicaid, and 13% for the general public). Among men 65 and older, the differences were even greater (7% for CRT Medicaid, 6% for other Medicaid, and 48% for the general public). As with women, the Medicare insurance program may have an impact on Medicaid billings in this age group.

Next Questions: Will the above patterns change with the introduction of Managed Care?
Are there differences in these access patterns among the geographical regions of Vermont?
Do clients of Adult Outpatient programs have similar patterns of access to general medical care?

Diagnostic Visits within Past Two Years

CRT Medicaid Clients, Other Medicaid Enrollees, and General Public



	Total	CRT Medicaid Clients				Other Medicaid Clients				General
	CRT Clients ¹	Enrollees ³		Diagnostic ⁴		Enrollees ²		Diagnostic ⁴		Public
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	%
Females										
Overall	1,236	746	60%	231	31%	11,305	1,822	16%		71%
Age 40-49	467	319	68%	99	31%	2,123	647	30%		67%
Age 50 and up	769	427	56%	132	31%	9,182	1,175	13%		73%
Males										
Overall	865	482	56%	24	5%	5,130	249	5%		34%
Age 40-49	416	249	60%	7	3%	1,274	31	2%		13%
Age 50 and up	449	233	52%	17	7%	3,856	218	6%		48%

¹ Total CRT clients served by community mental health providers during FY 1996.

² Clients eligible for Medicaid for at least 300 days in 1995 and 300 days in 1996. Percent is calculated as a percent of all CRT clients.

³ CRT Medicaid clients received at least one service billed by a CMHC CRT program during calendar 1996, and meet the definition above for Medicaid eligibles.

⁴ Diagnostic visits procedure codes: for females - mammograms, for males - prostate specific antigen.

Number represents clients in total or each group. Percent represents proportion of clients receiving procedure.